

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 197258
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:GWSCOTT:CJ
APPROVED BY AF:WCHARROP
S/S-O :SGOLDSMITH

-----092808 190232Z /70

P R 182344Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

S E C R E T STATE 197258

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: SO, US, MASS, UK

SUBJECT: BRITISH DECISION TO POSTPONE ARMS TO SOMALIA

REF: LONDON 13672

1. BRITISH EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE CALLED AT DEPARTMENT
AUG 16 TO PROVIDE DETAILS ON DECISION, GIVEN SOMALI ARMS
DEL, NOT TO SUPPLY ARMS TO SOMALIA UNTIL PRESENT ETHIOPIAN/
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 197258

SOMALI SITUATION SETTLED. REPRESENTATIVE SAID THAT ONE
MAJOR CONSIDERATION WAS THE LIKELY EFFECT ON NEIGH-
BORING COUNTRIES OF ANY BRITISH ARMS SUPPLY WHILE
FIGHTING WAS GOING ON IN ETHIOPIA, BUT THAT THOUGH THE
BRITISH WERE DETERMINED TO DEFER THE DECISION UNTIL
THERE WAS A SETTLEMENT OF THE SITUATION IN THE OGADEN,
THE EVENTUAL SALE OF ARMS WAS NOT RULED OUT WHEN THE

SETTLEMENT WAS ACHIEVED.

2. WHEN TOLD OF THE DECISION, THE SOMALI ARMS DELEGATION REPLIED BY DENYING THAT SOMALI TROOPS WERE IN THE OGADEN. THEY INSISTED THAT BY DEFERRING THE DECISION, THE BRITISH WERE LEAVING THE WAY OPEN TO FURTHER SOVIET INFLUENCE. THE SOMALIS BELITTLED THE OAU ABILITY TO ACHIEVE A SETTLEMENT, SAYING THAT THE DAY HAD PASSED WHEN THE OAU COULD ACHIEVE UNANIMITY. THEY ALSO INSISTED THAT THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT DESIRED TO IMPROVE RELATIONS

WITH KENYA AND INSISTED THAT THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT MADE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE SOMALI/ETHIOPIAN BOUNDARY AND THE BOUNDARY WITH KENYA.

3. THE BRITISH HAVE TOLD THE KENYANS THAT THEIR APPREHENSIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN ARRIVING AT THIS DECISION. BRITISH INFORMED US THAT FOREIGN MINISTER WAIYAKI APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY HIS SECURITY ADVISORS AND BELIEVES THAT IMMEDIATE SUPPLY OF ARMS TO SOMALIS IS NOT IN KENYA'S BEST INTEREST. THE KENYANS ALSO REPORTEDLY ASKED FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD FOR ARMS, BUT WERE REFUSED. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY SALES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE197258
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GWSCOTT:CJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770299-0490
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770846/aaaabnek.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a2f18a58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 LONDON 13672
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1556305
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRITISH DECISION TO POSTPONE ARMS TO SOMALIA
TAGS: MASS, SO, US, UK
To: LONDON NAIROBI MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a2f18a58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009